

Minutes

NAFA® Board of Directors Meeting, August 22, 2020

Held via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 Travel Restrictions

Steve Corona called the meeting to order at 9:07am CST

In attendance:

Jonathan Bescher
Steve Corona
Leerie Jenkins
Kathy Haney
Dana Hanson
Cindy Henderson
Emma Mak
Lynda Mantler

ED: Neil Flood

Recorder: Karen Oleson

Kurt Johnson was unable to attend due to work.

Officers' Reports

Chair's Comments:

- Welcome

Steve welcomed board members and wishes Jon a quick recovery as he is attending while ill.

A good article about flyball is available on theringer.com website.

Board members are asked to state their name when speaking as the meeting is being recorded and notes that the meeting will follow Robert's Rules of Order more closely.

Executive Director's Comments:

Neil reported that most of his information falls later in the agenda. There haven't been any tournaments, so there is not much to report.

- NAFA Tournament Timetable
This topic will be discussed under Old Business.

Treasurer's Report:

Financials:

Dana presented the current Profit and Loss. We have some anticipated expenses with the election, filing of the tax return and certain non-discretionary expenses that are expected to total approximately \$14,000 for June through December of calendar year 2020.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the May 2nd and June 7th, 2020 teleconferences have been approved and published.

Election Committee:

1. New format for candidate chats to be implemented this election cycle.
Chats held in the past will be replaced by (2) two Q/A periods on the NAFA blog and (1) one live chat. The committee has received a few nominations at this time. The committee will communicate to the NAFA community how the process will work.

Standing Committee Reports

Judges Committee:

1. Training/Continuing Education (Measuring Training also).

Leerie moved to have the judges committee host four video chats per year, one after each board meeting and one at the beginning of October to go over any new rules. In addition, to stay current as an approved or supervising judge, you must attend at least two within the fiscal year. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.

Leerie moved to require judges to sign off that they have read the changes to the rule book, along with answering a 5-10 question quiz. Lynda seconded the motion.

Discussion: There was a question about the types of things that may change in the rule book that may be administrative only.

Leerie amended his motion to require judges to sign off that they have read the changes to the rule book, along with responding to a questionnaire annually. Lynda accepted the amended motion.

Discussion followed with clarification that this would be used as an educational tool and to ensure that NAFA has communicated rule changes and interpretation effectively.

Leerie withdrew the motion.

Leerie moved, Annually, judges will have to sign off that they have read the changes to the rule book, along with answering a short questionnaire, to assess NAFA's successful communication of our rules and procedures. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

The committee feels new training videos are needed to cover what the proper stance should be during measuring.

Cindy moved to develop two training videos, one for all judges on the proper stance, and a second for supervising judges on how to train judges how to measure. Leerie seconded the motion.

Discussion: We need more consistency with how judges are being trained to measure as well as what the proper stance is. It was noted that the stance rules have changed since the last video was produced.

Cindy amended her motion to three videos: 1) handler tips on training your dog for measuring; 2) for all judges on the proper stance; 3) for supervising judges to train judges how to measure. Leerie accepted the amendment.

The motion carried with no opposition.

2. Required measures to maintain judging status.

Jon moved in order for a measuring assignment to count toward a measuring assignment, the judge must measure at least four separate dogs (on a C.9) during the tournament weekend, Leerie seconded the motion.

Currently the measuring judge does not need to measure any dogs to receive credit for a measuring assignment. Discussion followed regarding implementation and tracking of the measurements.

Jon amended his motion to judges must measure at least five different dogs during each NAFA fiscal year. Leerie accepted the amendment.

The motion carried with no opposition.

The rules committee will create wording for this change which will include methods of maintaining judging status if the requirement is not met.

3. Mandatory Measuring.

Leerie moved to make measuring mandatory. Lynda seconded the motion.

The board discussed the timing of the implementation of mandatory measuring and discussed how it would look. Multiple board members support a plan of having a comprehensive program including a measuring device, measuring videos, judge training, CMJs (or a replacement plan), height cards and timeline to roll out mandatory measuring.

Cindy asked for a vote on the open motion to make measuring mandatory. The motion passed with no opposition.

Cindy moved to have the chair create a Special Measuring Committee to create and evaluate the entire measuring program including the measuring device, CMJs, height cards and the timing of releasing the new program, Dana seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

The chair will create a Special Measuring Committee and task them with having a comprehensive measuring program recommendation to the board by December 31, 2020.

4. CMJ Program.

Cindy moved to have the Special Measuring Committee consider disbanding the CMJ program. Emma seconded the motion.

It was clarified during discussion that the motion does not mandate the disbanding of the CMJ program.

The motion carried with no opposition.

Cindy moved to temporarily remove the restriction that CMJs cannot be board members until the Special Measuring Committee proposes comprehensive changes to the measuring program, Leerie seconded the motion.

The motion carried with no opposition.

5. Height Cards.

Emma moved in order for a dog to get a height card, they need to be measured by two separate supervising judges, and those supervising judges can't be from the same region. Jon seconded the motion.

The board discussed ideas and recommendations which were provided by the judges committee. These ideas will be provided to the Special Measuring Committee.

Emma withdrew her motion.

6. Box Modifications – There is concern regarding adding a piece to the pedal part of the box that extends past the current box dimensions. Pieces protruding off the box could become damaged while in use or in transit and develop sharp edges. How are the judges going to handle this?

The board discussed safety concerns for potential new box designs and encourages clubs to keep this in mind, and asks judges to bring any box safety concerns to the judges committee. The judges committee will communicate with and give guidance to all NAFA judges.

The board recessed at 11:42am

The board reconvened at 12:03pm

Rules Committee:

1. Finalized wording for Rulebook changes decided at May meeting:

Box maximum dimension changes (width from 24 to 36 inches, height from 18 to 24 inches, depth from 30 to 36 inches)

Emma moved to accept the recommendation of the rules committee, Leerie seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

2. Changes to minimum NAFA tournament fee thresholds for receiving EJS lights free of charge from NAFA (from \$200 USD to \$360 USD for first set, \$800 to \$1080 for second, \$1400 to \$1980 for third). Clarification that host may opt to pay difference.

Emma moved to accept the updated wording from the rules committee for minimum fees. Dana seconded the motion. The motion carried with no opposition.

3. Addition of note to Iron Dog section, stating all dogs eligible to race during FY2020 will receive credit.

Emma moved to accept the rules committee recommendation, Lynda seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

4. Review of Regional MVP/JOY determination because of FY2020 cancellations.

The subject was discussed, and no motion was made.

5. Review of dated wording in rulebook.

Rulebook changes are noted at the bottom of the minutes.

Emma moved to accept the removal of the dated wording as presented. Leerie seconded.

The motion carried with no opposition.

6. Proposal from participant Joy Adiletta:

When we can start racing again, NAFA sets a time period or number of tournaments per region where the dogs earn double points. So instead of 25 points for a < 24 second heat, they get 50. That would help "make up" for the months of missed tournaments, at least point-wise, for those dogs who are working towards titles.

Emma moved to accept the idea of earning "make up" points presented by Joy, Lynda seconded.

The board appreciates that people in flyball have differing goals and objectives noting that not all people may want to earn "make up" points when racing resumes.

This is an idea that the board supports considering once it is determined when tournaments will resume.

Emma withdrew her motion.

All board members in attendance are very supportive of a points "make-up" program to be detailed and implemented once we know when NAFA flyball will resume.

Finance:

The Tax return deadline has been extended until August 17.

A new chart of accounts is expected to be complete by the beginning of FY2021.

Nominating Committee:

Nominations opened on August 7th, 2020.

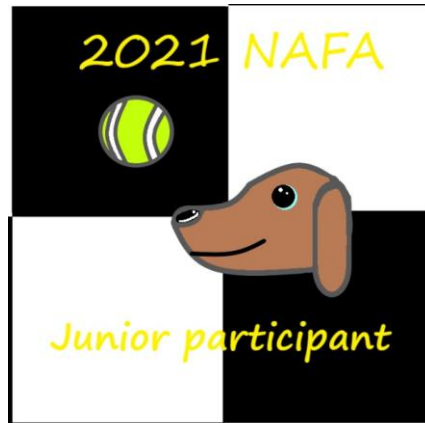
A few nominations have been received at this time. BIGPULSE will be contacted with the changes to the election as there will not be an Executive Director election and the committee will move forward with the balloting process.

Once nominations close the committee will move forward with candidate chats.

Marketing Committee:

1. Junior Participant Pin contest winner.

Jaslyn Brandt from Skidmarkz submitted the winning design.



2. Contest for NAFA apparel design in the absence of CanAm.

The committee asked the board if there was any interest in hosting a CanAm 2020 T-shirt design contest in the absence of the competition this year.

There is general board support for this. The contest could be held in a similar manner as it has in past years.

3. Hosting a CanAm vendor fair on NAFA Facebook page.

The board received a suggestion from Stacy Santarone, Captain, Waverunners Flyball Team to add CanAm Vendor links to the NAFA Facebook page during the October 9-11, 2020 weekend that would have hosted CanAm.

There was general support for this idea with the addition of asking previous T-shirt design winners who own stores to participate as well.

Disciplinary Committee:

Disciplinary Committee Report:			Effective Date
Bonnie Szoka	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	05/01/2020
Grizzly, 160097	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Moon, 160714	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Preacher, 140875	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Snickers, 150646	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020

Strut, 110221	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Whisper, 110704	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Prank, 140408	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Ripple, 120746	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Daisy, 120612	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Envy, 120477	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Scout, 110222	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Torch, 100047	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Zonda, 090536	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Style, 090142	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Tonka, 080349	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Mumble, 160230	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Cash, 140545	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	04/25/2015
Tommie, 100016	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	06/08/2014
Taj, 090259	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	05/04/2014
Tux, 100191	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	10/29/2013
Roxie, 051102	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	8/22/2011
Gimli, 040608	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	11/17/2008
Marion Brinkman	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Mike Mattos	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Janet Nelson Morris	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998
Dave Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998
Cheryl Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998
Jennifer Nelson	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998

Steve moved the board into executive session at 1:06pm

The board exited executive session at 1:18pm.

The board discussed disciplinary committee report procedures.

Review Panel:

1. No excusals have been submitted for review.

Special Committee Reports

Technology Committee:

Nothing to report

Communications Committee:

Nothing to report

CanAm Steering Committee:

Nothing to report

Ad hoc Committee regarding procedures for Unsportsmanlike Charges:

Progress report.

The committee will have initial recommendations to the board by the AGM meeting.

Old Business:

Reopening NAFA

Leerie moved to extend the non-sanctioning of tournaments through December 31, 2020, Kathy seconded the motion.

The board discussed different ways that NAFA could reopen, as well as timing and different ways of opening with different offerings. The motion carried with no objections.

The board will re-evaluate the reopening of sanctioning in October.

The handling of regional points and championships for 2021 will be discussed once it is determined when sanctioning will resume.

Neil asked for information regarding where NAFA expects to be financially without events being held.

The board recessed at 1:57pm to return at 2:10pm
The meeting resumed at 2:11pm

Dana presented expected expenses through December 2020 and the expected approximate cash balance at the end of the calendar year with no events being held.

Neil asked Emma to update the Iron Dog calculator to correctly calculate Iron Dog eligibility to be ready by October 1, 2020.

New Business:

NAFA received a request to increase the amount of time that passes before a dog is listed as "inactive" in the database. Emma was asked to change this to 18 months.

The next meeting will be scheduled in late September or early October.

Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting, Leerie seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.

Rules Committee Recommendations – August 22nd, 2020

Finalized wording for Rulebook changes decided in May meeting:

1. **Box maximum dimension changes (width from 24 to 36 inches, height from 18 to 24 inches, depth from 30 to 36 inches).**

Section 1.1 – Flyball boxes

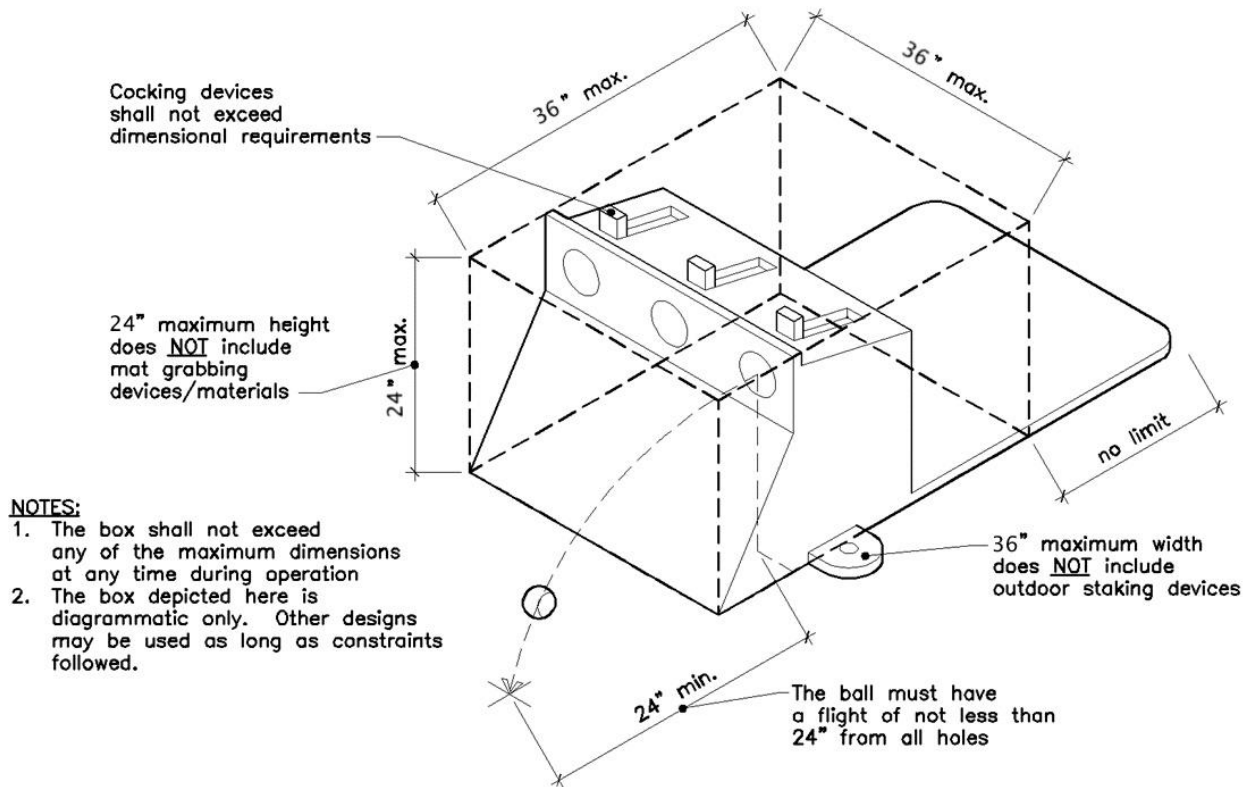
(e) Boxes:

(i) Shall not exceed 36 inches in width, 24 inches in height from the bottom surface of the box excluding mat grabbing devices/materials and outdoor staking devices;

(ii) The body of the box shall not exceed 36 inches in depth;

(iii) The base of the box upon which the box loader stands may exceed 36 inches in depth;

New diagram:



2. Changes to minimum NAFA tournament fee threshold for receiving EJS lights from of charge from NAFA (from \$200 USD to \$360 USD for first set, \$800 to \$1080 for second, \$1400 to \$1980 for third). Clarification that host may opt to pay difference.

The committee had agreed on the following wording, however, during final review it was noticed that it wasn't clear that the minimum amounts were for a tournament weekend. Part of the committee worked on rewording to fix this issue, but the whole committee has not been able to review and respond. See the latest suggested wording in blue below.

Section 6.5 – Electronic Judging Systems

(e) EJS and Recording Fees

1) Tournaments using one EJS, that generate less than \$360.00 USD in NAFA® recording fees, will pay NAFA® \$360.00 USD, and no NAFA® recording fees stated in CHAPTER 6 Section 6.1(m).

2) Tournaments utilizing two sets of EJS, that generate less than \$1080.00 USD in NAFA® recording fees, will pay NAFA® \$1080 USD, and no NAFA® recording fees stated in CHAPTER 6 Section 6.1(m).

3) Tournaments utilizing three sets of EJS, that generate less than \$1980 USD in NAFA recording fees, will pay NAFA® \$1980 USD, and no NAFA® recording fees stated in CHAPTER 6 Section 6.1(m).

Section 6.5 – Electronic Judging Systems (e) EJS and Recording Fees

Hosts using NAFA® EJS must pay NAFA® the greater of the recording fees stated in CHAPTER 6 Section 6.1(m) for the tournament weekend, or the following flat rates:

- 1) \$360.00 USD flat rate for use of one NAFA® EJS.
- 2) \$1080.00 USD flat rate for use of two NAFA® EJS.
- 3) \$1980.00 USD flat rate for use of three NAFA® EJS.

The motion at the May meeting did not include EJS rental amounts. The question was raised as to whether the board would like to review the rental fees (as a separate item).

3. Addition of note to Iron Dog Section, stating all dogs eligible to race during FY2020 will receive credit.

Section 8.3 – Iron Dog Award

A dog earning at least one NAFA® point in ten consecutive Racing years is awarded the NAFA® Iron Dog title. An Iron Dog plaque is awarded. All dogs eligible to be listed on a time sheet in FY2020 received credit towards the Iron Dog award for FY2020.

Dated Wording:

CHAPTER 6 – HOSTING A NAFA® SANCTIONED EVENT

Section 6.1 – Requirements

(m) The following items will be sent to NAFA® within 14 days after the tournament, via NAFA® approved courier:

(i) If results are submitted electronically (meeting the criteria established by NAFA®):

(a) NAFA® Recording Fees

~~(1) Events held October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019~~

~~a) \$22 USD per scored team for single day tournaments~~

~~b) \$33 USD per scored team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day~~

~~c) When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days, the full fee is due for the tournament with the largest entry and \$11 USD per team may be deducted from each additional tournament;~~

~~(2) Events held on or after January 1, 2020~~

~~a) \$24 USD per scored team for single day tournaments~~

~~b) \$36 USD per scored team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day~~

~~c) When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days, the full fee is due for the tournament with the largest entry and \$12 USD per team may be deducted from each additional tournament;~~

(ii) When results are not submitted electronically:

(a) NAFA® Recording Fees

~~(1) Events held October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019~~

~~a) \$30 USD per scored team for single day tournaments~~

~~b) \$42 USD per scored team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day;~~

~~(2) Events held on or after January 1, 2020~~

~~a) \$32 USD per scored team for single day tournaments~~

~~b) \$45 USD per scored team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day;~~

CHAPTER 5 – CODE OF CONDUCT

Section 5.1 – Code of Ethics

(c) Abuse or severe disciplining of a dog is not in the best interest of flyball. No dog under the age of one (1) year may be listed on a time sheet in a sanctioned event. After April 01, 2019, no **No** dog under the age of fifteen (15) months may be listed on a time sheet in a sanctioned event. Any dog born on or before March 31st, 2018 is exempt from the 15 month requirement.

Appendix A

Recording Fees (payable by the host club):

- ❖ When tournaments are scored electronically, and results and funds are received by NAFA within 14 days of the end of the tournaments:
 - ~~Events held October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019:~~
 - ~~\$22 USD per team that competes in a single day NAFA sanctioned tournament; or \$33 USD per team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day.~~
 - ~~When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days and each is scored electronically, the full fee per team is due for the tournament with the largest entry and \$11 USD per team may be deducted from each additional tournament.~~
 - ~~Events held on or after January 1, 2020:~~
 - When tournaments are scored electronically, and results and funds are received by NAFA within 14 days of the end of the tournaments:
 - \$24 USD per team that competes in a single day NAFA sanctioned tournament; or \$36 USD per team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day.
 - When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days and each is scored electronically, the full fee per team is due for the tournament with the largest entry and \$12 USD per team may be deducted from each additional tournament.
- ❖ When tournaments do not meet the above discount requirements (not scored electronically or received late):
 - ~~Events held October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019:~~
 - ~~\$30 USD per team that competes in a single day NAFA sanctioned tournament; or \$42 USD per team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day.~~
 - ~~Events held on or after January 1, 2020:~~
 - \$32 USD per team that competes in a single day NAFA sanctioned tournament; or \$45 USD per team for tournaments lasting more than 1 day.